

# JULY FIREWORKS CLASS OUTLINE

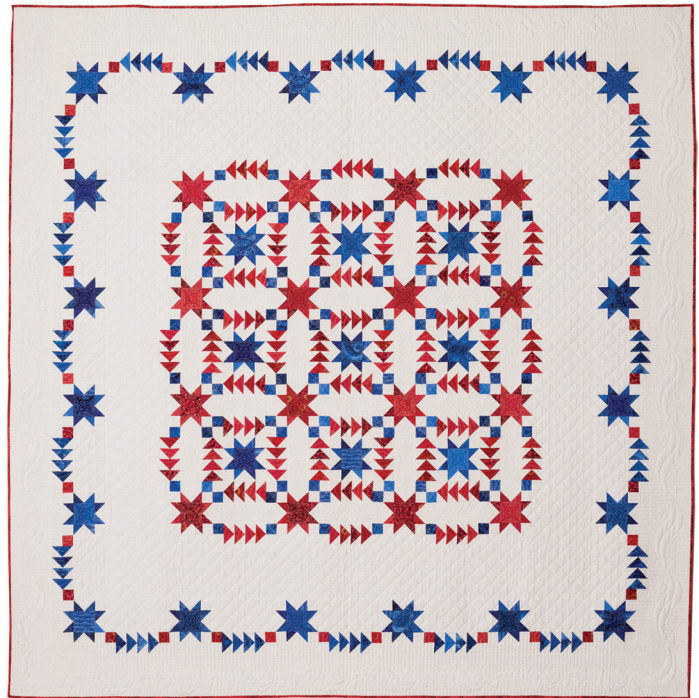
## Class Description

Make this Wedding Ring variation without curved seams from Judy Martin's *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts: 16 Striking Patriotic and 2-Color Patterns*. It comes in your choice of 3 color schemes: 1) red, white and blue (page 50 and at right); 2) blue, white and navy (page 52 and below right); or 3) red and white (page 18 and page 3 of this outline). For the blue, white and navy example, substitute blue for red in yardage, cutting lists, and diagrams. For the red and white version, add together the red and blue yardages and cutting lists to get the red total, and substitute red for blue in the block and quilt diagrams.

## Suited for Advanced Beginner to Experienced Level

The pattern is designed to be simple enough for an advanced beginner and interesting enough for an experienced quilter. The quilt is made from the simplest of stars: the Evening Star (also called the Variable Star). The cutting and sewing utilize basic squares, rectangles, half-square triangles, and quarter-square triangles. It also has prisms and half prisms.

Accurate sewing will help in joining the pieced borders and quilt center to the plain borders. An ability to follow diagrams is also needed.

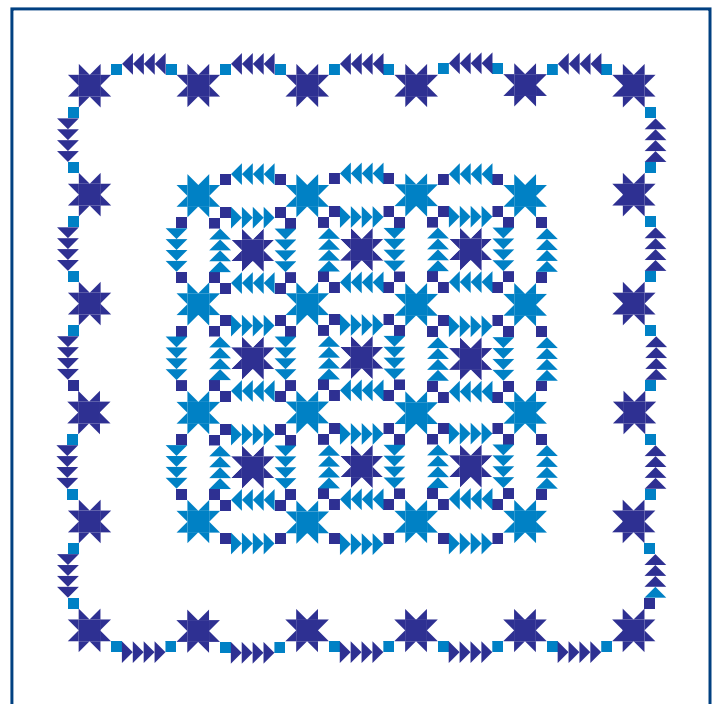


## Items to Bring to Session 1 if You Have Them:

*Red, White & Blue Star Quilts* and any fabrics from home that you are considering using.

## Session 1: Fabrics

Demonstrate fabrics that read as solid. Show the options for cutting E prisms and G half prisms found on the RWB Extras page at [judymartin.com](http://judymartin.com).



Blue, White and Navy Version

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Assist students with selection of fabric and purchase of fabric; *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts*; and tools. The easiest options are my ABC Point Trimmer or my Point Trimmer and the single acrylic template used for both July Fireworks E prisms and G half prisms. To buy my Point Trimmer, go to Products at judymartin.com. Find ordering information for the ABC Point Trimmer and the July Fireworks E-G rotary cutting template on the RWB Extras page at judymartin.com.

Demonstrate rotary cutting E prisms and G half prisms using my July Fireworks acrylic template/my ShapeMaker 45 tool/downloaded paper guide.

Demonstrate point trimming using my old Point Trimmer/my new ABC Point Trimmer/downloaded guides and instructions at RWB Extras from judymartin.com.

## Homework

Choose your method for point trimming and prism cutting, as delineated on the RWB Extras page at judymartin.com. Read pages 7–9, the top 2 sections of page 10, page 12, the right half of page 15 (if you plan to use my ShapeMaker 45 tool), the right half of page 32, and the instructions for your chosen point trimming and prism cutting method from the links on the RWB Extras page.

Make your final fabric selection and/or purchase.

Prepare fabrics. Prewash if desired and press.

## Required Items to Bring to Session 2

Required: *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts*; rotary cutting mat; rotary ruler; rotary cutter; pressing mat; iron; fabric as listed for your chosen colors; my Point Trimmer/my ABC Point Trimmer/downloads for trimming points; and my ShapeMaker 45/my July Fireworks acrylic template/downloaded paper guide for rotary cutting E and G prisms and half prisms.

## Session 2: Cutting

Demonstrate cutting borders and rectangles on the lengthwise grain for added stability. Stress cutting the seamless borders and largest patches first.

Demonstrate rotary cutting squares, half-square triangles, rectangles, and quarter-square triangles.

If you like, demonstrate the all-lengthwise grain option for quarter-square triangles using my S45

(page 15) or another ruler of your choice. (The Small Flying Geese Ruler #8705 at From Marti Michell is one option, though you need to subtract  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the strip width when you use her tool.)

Review cutting E prisms and G half prisms using the acrylic template/using my old S45 tool (page 15)/using a paper guide downloaded from RWB Extras at judymartin.com.

Review trimming points to help align patches for sewing and to eliminate dogears from seams: For half-square triangles use the A trims of the ABC Point Trimmer or the Point Trimmer. Alternatively use a paper guide/charts for using a regular ruler to trim points. All guides, charts, and instructions are available for free download at RWB Extras at judymartin.com.

Review trimming points on quarter-square triangles (B trims).

Demonstrate seam allowance test (page 8).

Assist students as they begin rotary cutting and trimming points.

## Homework

Continue rotary cutting and trimming points. Have students do the seam allowance test at home.

## Required Items to Bring to Session 3

Required: *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts*; seam allowance test; cut patches; sewing machine; pins; spare machine needles; thread snips; thread; bobbins; extension cord; seam ripper; pressing mat; and iron.

## Session 3: Piecing Stars and Units

Demonstrate piecing and pressing star 1 (pages 12 and 52). Discuss the option of chain piecing 2 units at a time if one prefers that to assembly-line work.

Demonstrate piecing units 1–3 (page 52).

Assist students who had problems with the seam allowance test. Students begin sewing stars and u. 1–3.

## Homework

Continue piecing star 1's and units 1–3.

## Required Items to Bring to Session 4

Required: *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts*; sewn stars and units; cut patches; sewing machine; pins; spare machine needles; thread snips; thread; bobbins; extension cord; seam ripper; pressing mat; and iron.

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## Session 4: Piecing Blocks T–W & the Quilt Center

Demonstrate piecing blocks T–W (page 52).

Discuss assembling the quilt center from unit 3's and blocks T–W.

Discuss pinning and stitching the 8" x 54½" plain borders to the top and bottom of the quilt center.

Reserve the plain side borders for later.

Students begin making T, U, V and W blocks and assembling the quilt center.

### Homework

Students continue making blocks and assembling the quilt center.

### Required Items to Bring to Session 5

Required: *Red, White & Blue Star Quilts*; sewn stars and units; cut patches; sewing machine; pins; spare machine needles; thread snips; thread; bobbins; extension cord; seam ripper; pressing mat; and iron.

## Session 5: Piecing Blocks X–Z & the Pieced Borders

Demonstrate piecing blocks X–Z (page 52).

Discuss joining X & Y blocks alternately to make a side border as shown on page 53. Make 4 of these alike. To 2 of these, pin and stitch one of the remaining 8"-wide plain borders to the starry edge. Pin and stitch these to the right and left sides of the quilt, with the plain borders touching the quilt center.

Discuss the top and bottom borders: add a Z block to each end of the remaining 2 pieced borders, turning them as shown on page 53. Pin and stitch a 6½" x 84½" plain border to the Flying Geese edge of each of these 2 pieced borders. Pin and stitch these to the quilt's top and bottom with the plain borders on the outside edge.

Discuss pinning and stitching the 6½" x 96½" plain borders to the right and left to complete the quilt.

Students begin making X–Z blocks and borders.

Assess students' progress and agree on a date for a reveal party for quilt tops or completed quilts.

### Homework

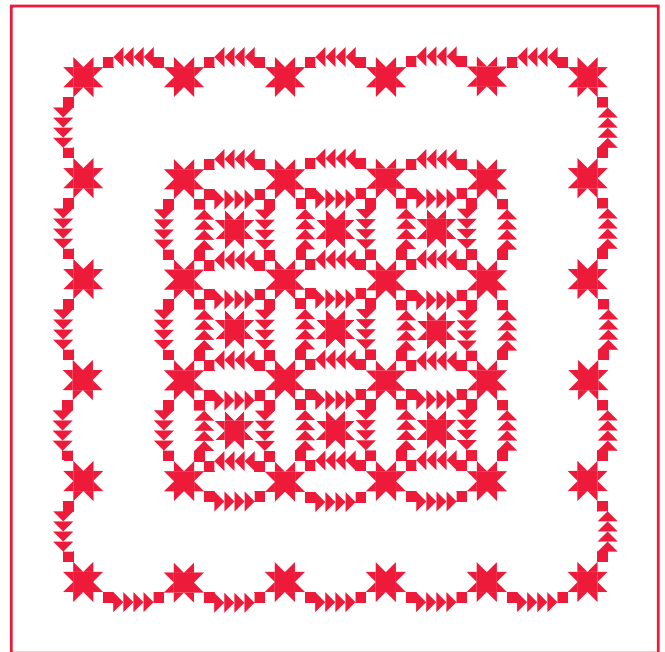
Students continue making border blocks X–Z, joining them to make the pieced borders, and sewing borders to the quilt.

### Bring to Session 6

Completed quilt, quilt top, or progress made so far.

## Session 6: Reveal Party

Hold a show-and-tell meetup at the shop to reveal everyone's quilt or quilt top. Consider taking pictures of the quilts with their makers for your shop newsletter. If you like, make and serve cookies from *Cookies 'n' Quilts*, and sell copies of that book, too. Share a quilt or two from coming classes to spark interest.



Red and White Version